

# Wake County Notice to Well Users



Environmental  
Services

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Groundwater Protection  
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**June 24, 2019**

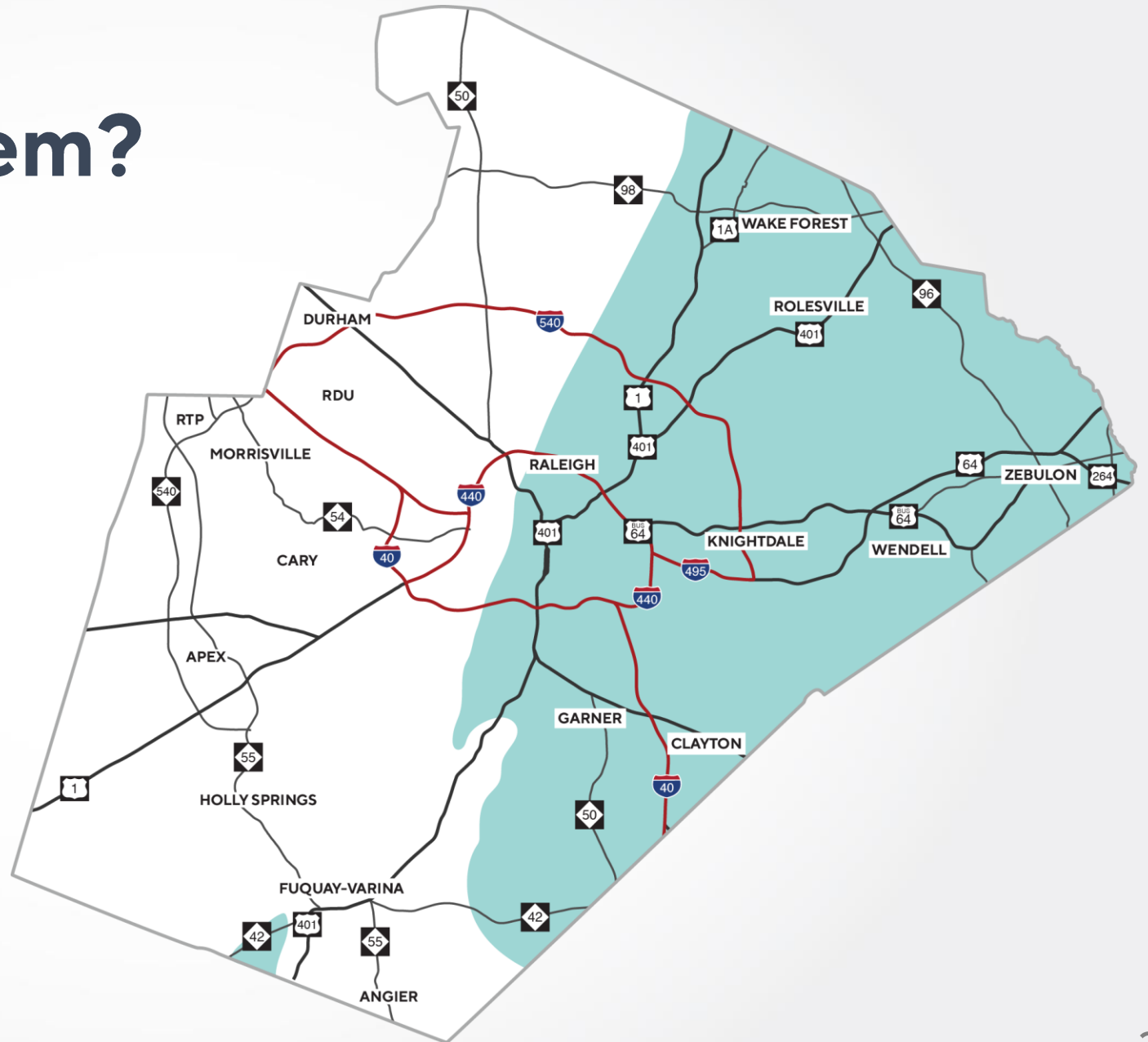
# Take-Home Messages

- 1 in 5 wells in eastern Wake may be contaminated
- Laboratory testing is the only way to know
- If you pay a water bill, your water is already being tested
- These problems can be fixed
- Check [wakegov.com/wells](http://wakegov.com/wells) for more information

# What is the problem?

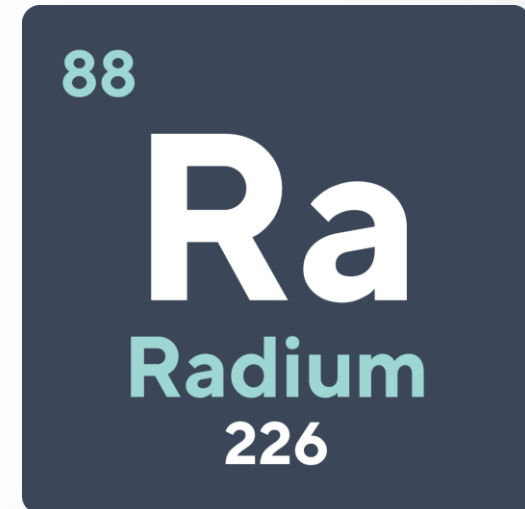
1 in 5 private wells in this area may have unsafe levels of contamination due to underground rock

Community water systems are already tested regularly



# What is the problem?

## Naturally-occurring contaminants



# What are the health risks?

# Uranium Health Risks



**Exposure: Ingestion (drinking & cooking)**

**Short-term: kidney toxicity**  
**Long-term: Increased risk of certain cancers**

# Radium Health Risks



**Exposure: Ingestion**

**Long-term: Increased risk of certain cancers**

# Radon Health Risks



**Exposure: Inhalation & Ingestion**

**Long-term: Increased risk of lung cancer, intestinal cancers**

**Radon can also enter through home foundation**




# How do I know if I am affected?

**If you pay a water bill, your water is already being tested.**

# Interactive online map







Laboratory testing  
is the only way to  
know for sure



# What tests do I need?

- Uranium
- Gross Alpha Activity
- Radon in water
- Indoor air Radon

# How do I get my well tested?

# Who can test my well?

- Florida Radiochemistry
- National Testing Labs
- Pace Analytical
- Some water treatment contractors
- Wake County (lower-income residents)
- Check [wakegov.com/wells](http://wakegov.com/wells) for updated information

# Florida Radiochemistry Lab

- Ask for Uranium, Gross Alpha, & Radon
- Testing only for radiologicals
- Ships bottles to customer; customer ships filled bottles back
- 407-382-7733



# National Testing Labs

- “Standard Radiological” includes Uranium, Gross Alpha, & Radon
- Also offers other well water tests
- Ships bottles to customer; customer ships filled bottles back
- Order online at  
<https://watercheck.com/collections/well-water-tests/>

# Pace Analytical

- Ask for Uranium, Gross Alpha, & Radon
- Also offers other well water tests
- Pick up & drop off bottles at Raleigh location
- Also offers sample collection
- 919-834-4984
- [pacelabs.com/about-us/locations/raleigh-nc.html](http://pacelabs.com/about-us/locations/raleigh-nc.html)

# Wake County can test water for lower-income residents

- At or below the federal poverty level:  
\$73
- Up to 2.5x the federal poverty level:  
\$182.50
- Forms at Wake County Regional Centers & at [wakegov.com/wells](https://wakegov.com/wells)



A close-up photograph showing a hand holding a clear glass vial. A clear liquid is being dispensed from a glass pipette into the vial. The vial is partially filled with the same liquid. The background is a plain, light-colored surface.

**Reliable sample  
collection is key**

# Other notes about testing

- Testing takes about 3 weeks
- Cost for these tests about \$170 - \$250 + shipping or sample collection fees

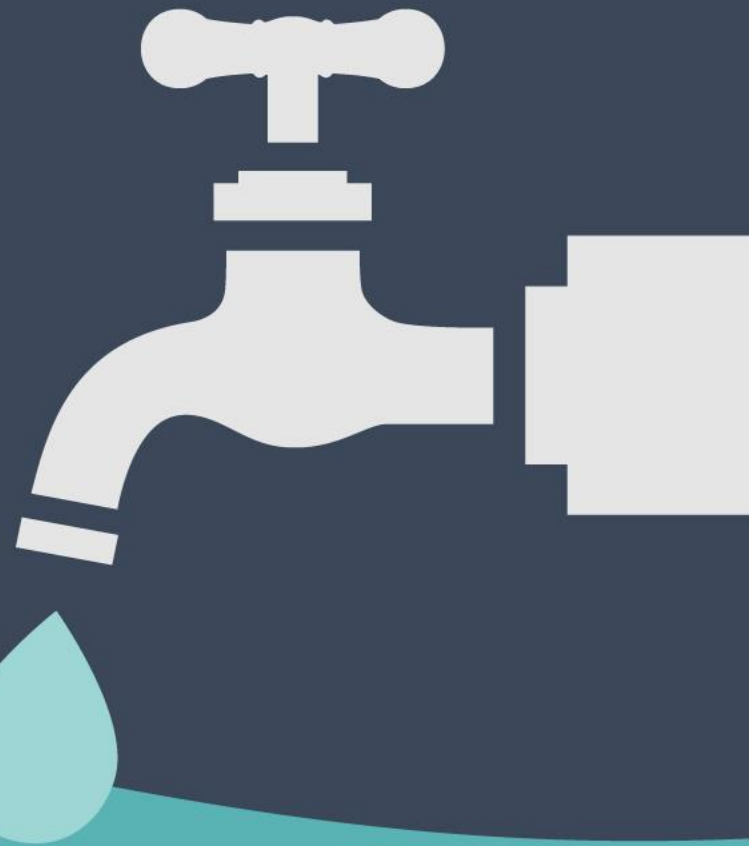
# What do my results mean?

- Test interpretation information will be added to [wakegov.com/wells](http://wakegov.com/wells)
- Bring lab report to 2<sup>nd</sup> round of community meetings

# What if my well is contaminated?

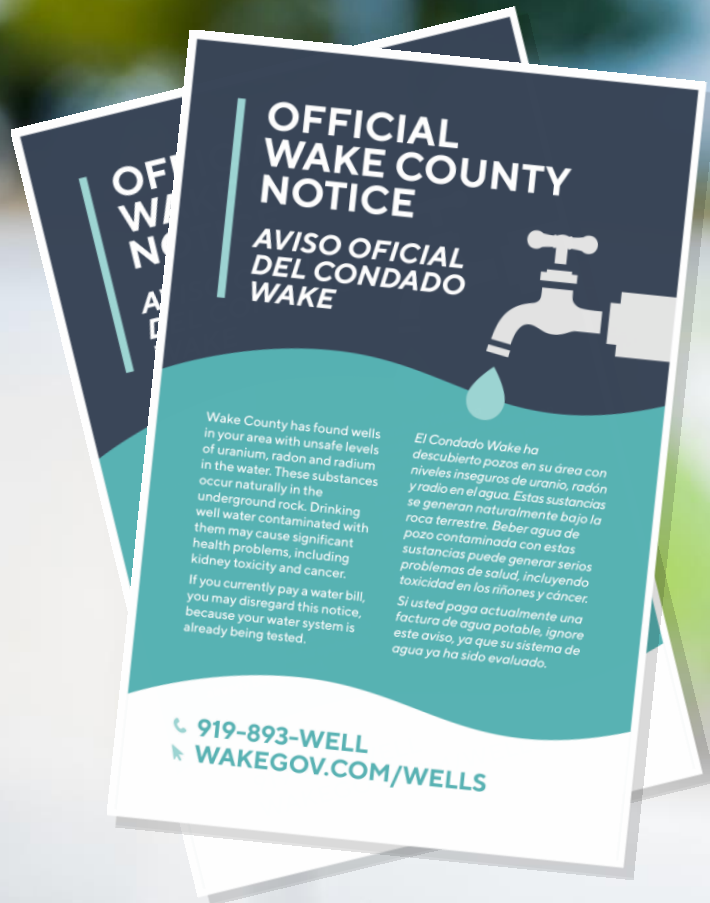
- Problem is fixable
- Multiple options
- Cost is owner's responsibility
- Some financial assistance available

# | Questions





# What's next?



**Mailing  
19,000 notices**

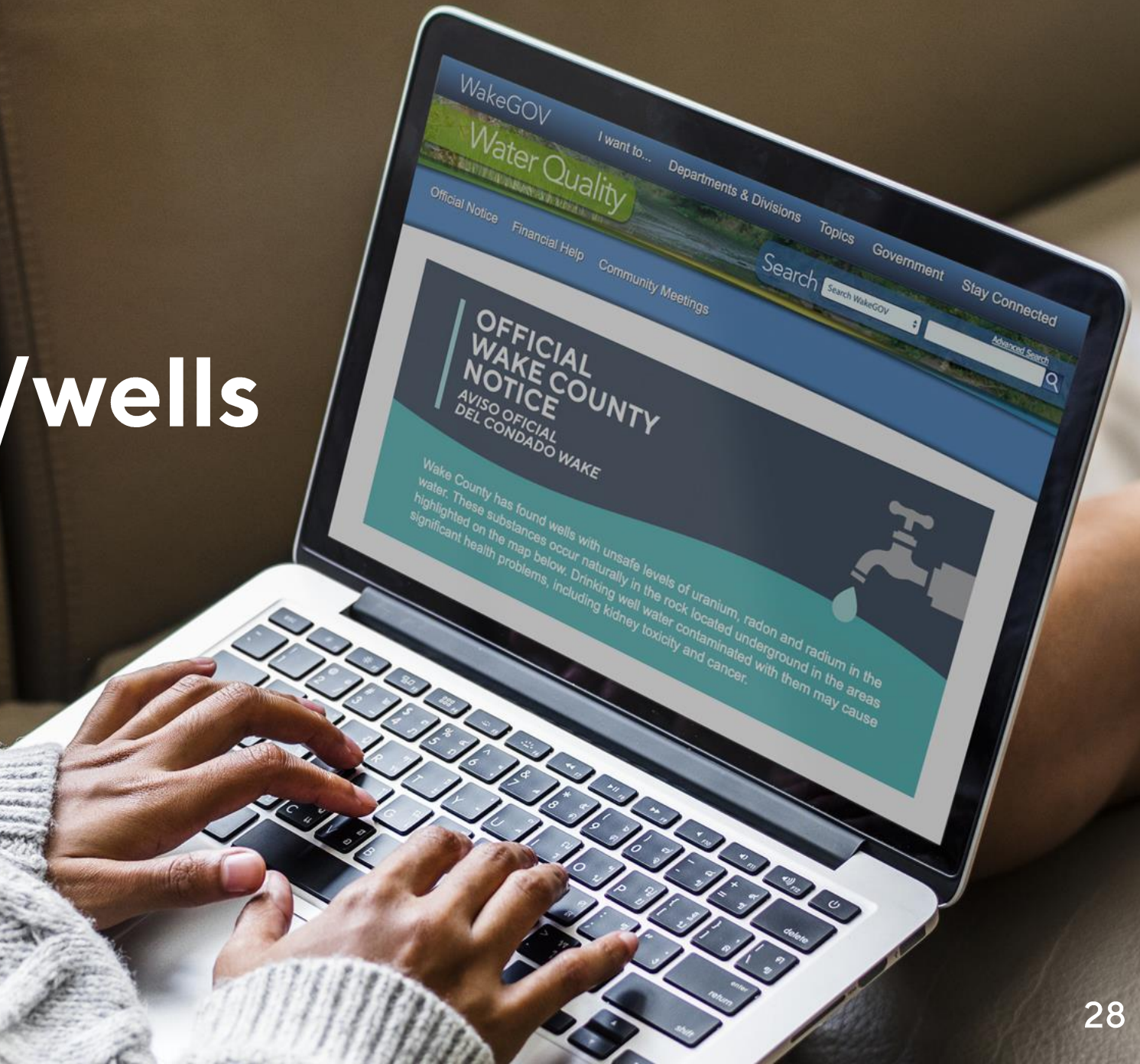
# What's next?

- Get your water tested!
- More community meetings in July & August
- Check [wakegov.com/wells](https://wakegov.com/wells) for updates





[wakegov.com/wells](http://wakegov.com/wells)



24-hour hotline  
**919-893-WELL**